



## The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the  
NH Department of Environmental Services

February 2009

*The Municipal EcoLink*, is a monthly e-bulletin designed to inform you of the latest environmental ideas, trends, grants, rules and more from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES). We respectfully request that the following is read into the minutes of your municipal committees, councils and boards. Please feel free to post it on your municipal website as well.

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### Informational Website on Stimulus Package for Environmental/Water Infrastructure

DES has created a new web page to help keep municipalities and other interested parties informed of developments regarding the economic recovery stimulus package being considered by federal lawmakers. In particular, DES posts information as it relates to any potential environmental, water, wastewater, stormwater or brownfields infrastructure funding that may be a part of any stimulus package. For information, please go to "What's New" on [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov).

### Water Resource Primer Unveiled

On February 10, DES, state legislators and others announced the release of the *New Hampshire Water Resource Primer*, an overview of the state's water resources and their management. The primer represents a significant step in the development of a statewide, comprehensive water plan, initiated by the Legislature's statutory Water Resources Committee. Over the next few months, DES will hold a series of public meetings throughout the state to solicit public input, and to discuss the primer and the state water plan process. To view a copy, go to "What's New" at [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov).

### Stormwater Utility Feasibility Study Grant RFP Released by DES

Many New Hampshire municipalities have expressed interest in developing stormwater utilities to address flood and erosion control, water quality management, ecological preservation, and annual pollutant load contained in stormwater discharge. Grant funding is now available from DES, which may be used to support costs associated with conducting a stormwater utility feasibility study. The application deadline is March 14, 2009. For more information, please go to "Grants/Loans" under "Quick Links," and click on "Current Grant Opportunities" to see the Stormwater Utility Feasibility Study Grant Application. Contact Eric Williams, 271-7889, [eric.williams@des.nh.gov](mailto:eric.williams@des.nh.gov), or Barbara McMillan, 559-1517, [barbara.mcmillan@des.nh.gov](mailto:barbara.mcmillan@des.nh.gov) with questions.

### New Hampshire Stormwater Manual Now Available

DES has just released the *New Hampshire Stormwater Manual*. The manual is consistent with the recently adopted Alteration of Terrain Rules (Env-Wq 1500), and provides guidance on state and federal stormwater regulations, and the selection and design of best management practices, including low impact development strategies. The manual is issued as a three volume set. To view, please go to What's New" at [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov). For more information, please contact Jillian McCarthy at (603) 271-8475 or [jillian.mccarthy@des.nh.gov](mailto:jillian.mccarthy@des.nh.gov).

### Septic System Designers and Installers Required to Have Continuing Ed Credits

Effective January 1, 2009, RSA 485-A:35-36 requires that all permitted designers and installers annually complete a minimum of three hours of continuing education credit-hours approved by DES. The credit-hour requirement applies to all renewals for January 1, 2011 and subsequent two-year license renewals. Within each two-year period, at least three of the six credit hours must be obtained by attending DES Subsurface Systems Bureau educational seminars. DES has begun scheduling these training seminars; the next one is March 5 in Keene. For more information, please contact Dawn Buker at (603) 271-1449 or [dawn.buker@des.nh.gov](mailto:dawn.buker@des.nh.gov).

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